



Dedicated to preserving, promoting, and sharing the literature, art, and culture of equestrian, angling, and field sports

NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY & MUSEUM

SPRING 2022

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

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*A DECADE AFIELD: CELEBRATING
10 YEARS OF THE MUSEUM*

*STORIED FRIENDS: MARGUERITE
HENRY AND WESLEY DENNIS*

*THANK YOU TO F. TURNER REUTER, JR.
AND CLAUDIA PFEIFFER*



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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Spring is always a beautiful time at the NSLM, and this year is especially exciting as we celebrate the Museum's 10th anniversary!

The Museum opened to great fanfare in October 2011 with the landmark exhibition *Afield in America: 400 Years of Animal & Sporting Art*. We are hard at work installing *A Decade Afield*, a museum-wide exhibition in conjunction with the anniversary highlighting some of the most important works in our permanent collection. This promises to be an exhilarating showcase of our holdings thus far. An article by Deputy Director & George L. Ohrstrom, Jr. Curator Claudia Pfeiffer on page two describes the evolution and magnitude of the Museum and its collections.

We are excited that Jacqueline B. Mars and Jack S. Griswold are the Honorary Co-Chairs for our highly anticipated anniversary Gala on June 2. Guests that evening will be able to preview *A Decade Afield* before it officially opens on June 3. In a festive evening of dinner and dancing, we will toast to the continued success of the Museum and the organization thanks to the support and generosity of our friends and donors like you.

Please join me in welcoming Michael R. Crane and Robert P. Irwin, our newest members of the Board of Directors. The commitment of our Board and staff in the years since our opening have been crucial to our success and in this issue, we highlight two individuals who have been instrumental to the organization. We would like to extend our enormous gratitude to F. Turner Reuter, Jr. and Claudia Pfeiffer. Turner Reuter has served on the Board, and various committees, for 30 years and his service, expertise, and generosity have been instrumental in the NSLM's growth and achievement. Likewise, Deputy Director & George L. Ohrstrom Jr. Curator Claudia Pfeiffer celebrates 10 years at NSLM. Her knowledge, skill, and enthusiasm are inimitable and we are lucky, and grateful, to have her as our driving force.

To prepare for *A Decade Afield*, the Museum will close for a month starting on May 2, although the Library will remain open during its usual hours. Opening on April 30 in the Library's Forrest E. Mars, Sr. Exhibit Hall is *Storied Friends: Marguerite Henry and Wesley Dennis*. The exhibition explores the decades-long literary partnership, known for beloved books like *Misty of Chincoteague*, between author Henry and illustrator Dennis using material from our archives.

Be sure to read about all our upcoming programs and events, including a full season of our popular Open Late summer concert series. If you haven't already, please mark your calendars for Sunday, September 11 for this year's Polo Classic. We are thrilled that MARS EQUESTRIAN™ will be returning once again as our Presenting Sponsor. Tickets will go on sale June 15. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

As always, we are most appreciative and grateful for our many supporters. Thank you for making these exciting milestones and events possible. We look forward to seeing you on campus soon.

NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY & MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

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A Decade *Afield*

-Claudia Pfeiffer | Deputy Director and George L. Ohrstrom, Jr. Curator

“If you build it, they will come,” is an adage which conjures feelings of hope and anticipation of possibilities for the future. The dream of an NSL Museum took its first steps to becoming a reality when a Vine Hill Building Committee was formed in 2006. The group was charged with overseeing the renovation and expansion of the historic 1804 house, “Vine Hill,” bequeathed to the NSL by George L. Ohrstrom, Jr. The Museum’s groundbreaking was in 2009, the organization rebranded as the NSLM in the following year, and the structure was completed in 2011. In 2012 the NSLM received the Loudoun County Joint Architectural Review Board’s Historic District Design Excellence Award for the building’s design. Today, the names of those whose significant contributions made the building’s dedication possible are carved in slate in the Museum’s foyer.

Over the past 10 years, the meteoric growth of the Museum and its reputation could only have happened through its strong leadership from the top down. Chair Dr. Manuel H. Johnson and Vice Chair Mrs. Jacqueline B. Mars have been at the helm of the institution throughout the past decade with a Board of Directors and staff completely invested in the forward momentum of the NSLM. The Museum Exhibitions and Collections Committee has spearheaded a robust schedule of exhibitions and guided the growth of the art collection. The development of Museum best practices and policies early on set the groundwork to focus on sustainability of the NSLM for the future, through our engaged community of donors, members, and visitors.

When the NSLM’s new Museum opened its doors to the public for the first time in October 2011, it presented a blockbuster loan exhibition, *Afield in America: 400 Years of Animal & Sporting Art*. Over 100 masterworks gathered



Collection of National Sporting Library & Museum (details), left to right: Nic Fiddian-Green, *Still Water*, 2011, Purchased with funds donated by: Mrs. Frances Massey Dulaney, Mrs. Jacqueline B. Mars, Mrs. George L. Ohrstrom, Jr., Dr. and Mrs. Manuel H. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Akre, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Ronald M. Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Hector Alcalde, Ms. Cathy Brentzel, Mr. and Mrs. Guy O. Dove, Ms. Nina Fout, Ms. Adrienne and Mr. John Mars, Mr. and Mrs. Clarke Ohrstrom, Mrs. Robin Parsky, Mrs. Clarice Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Brennan, Ms. Elizabeth Locke and Mr. John Staelin, 2013; Henri DeLattre, *The Race between Mac and Zachary Taylor at Hunting Park Course, Philadelphia, July 18, 1849, 1850*, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. F. Turner Reuter, Jr. and an Anonymous donor, 2021; Frank W. Benson, *Lower Camp Pool*, 1928, Gift from a Private Collection, 2020; Franklin Brooke Voss, *Portrait of Mrs. William C. Langley Aside on Sandown*, 1921, Gift of Mrs. Eleanor Langley Fletcher, 1962; Sir Alfred J. Munnings, *A Winner at Epsom*, c. 1948, Gift of Jacqueline B. Mars, 2020

from major institutions and private collections across the country were installed throughout the entire building. The ambitious project was guest curated by NSLM Board member F. Turner Reuter, Jr. “to raise awareness of the importance of animal and sporting art as a reflection of American history and cultural life.” It set the bar for the new fine art museum. Behind the scenes, however, there were some who questioned the NSLM’s ability to fill the galleries for the long run after the exhibition closed.

The renovated and expanded Federal-style house had 10 small-to-medium and two passthrough hall galleries, and the new section boasted two large galleries. A blank canvas, the immediate plan was to develop two loan exhibitions a year for the two large galleries and feature the permanent collection in the historic wing.

Felicia Warburg Rogan had donated 15 important British sporting paintings in 2011 bringing John Emms; Lionel Edwards; John Frederick Herring, Jr.; Michael Lyne; Sir Alfred Munnings; and George Wright paintings to the fore. These works filled two galleries. The vision for display and growth of the collection was to keep these standards and better represent a tenet of the NSLM’s mission to preserve, promote, and share the art of



Collection of National Sporting Library & Museum (details), left to right: John Emms, *Foxhounds and Terrier in a Stable Interior*, 1878, Gift of Mrs. Felicia Warburg Rogan, 2008; John E. Ferneley Sr., *The Hunt in Belvoir Vale*, 1835, Gift of Kathryn James Clark in memory of Stephen C. Clark, Jr. 2013; Ogden Minton Pleissner, *The Covey Rise*, 1960, Gift of Private Collection, 2018; John Frederick Herring, Sr., *Going to the Fair*, 1841, Gift of Manuel and Mary Johnson, 2021; Herbert Haseltine, *Percheron Mare: Messaline and Foal*, Gift of Jacqueline Ohrstrom, 2011

traditional turf and field sports. Although there were several artworks in the NSL's collection of the quality and caliber of Mrs. Rogan's gift, the majority served as decorations for the Library.

The best works were earmarked for display in the first floor Vine Hill galleries to represent the art collection. This meant a minimum of two second-floor galleries would need to be covered with loan exhibit topics. Many were solo exhibitions by living animal and sporting artists. This reinforced the notion that the NSLM was not a keeper of a static past but a thriving sporting and art community. Animal artists Robin Hill, Kay Jackson, and Meg Page; sporting artists CD Clarke, Peter Corbin, Henry Koehler, Andre Pater, and Walter Matia; sporting lithographer Greg Montgomery; photographers Colin Barker and Jesse Freidin; and Contemporary artists Joan Danziger, Diana Reuter-Twining, and Clarice Smith brought a broad variety of subject matter and mediums to the galleries, offering fresh perspectives and examinations of artistic expression.

Over the years, the NSLM also partnered with numerous institutions to bring exciting projects to the Museum. We worked with the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (VMFA) for several traveling exhibitions including the



powerhouse, *A Sporting Vision: The Paul Mellon Collection of British Sporting Art from the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts*. Our two institutions partnered for *The Horse and Ancient Greek Art* and the accompanying catalogue which presented new scholarship on the topic. *On Fly in the Salt: American Saltwater Fly Fishing from the Surf to the Flats*, created by the American Museum Fly Fishing (AMFF), was an excellent opportunity to highlight the AMFF's research and art on a sport with deep American roots. Collaborating with the National Museum of Wildlife Art brought *Tucker Smith: A Celebration of Nature* and *Bob Kuhn: Drawing on Instinct* to the NSLM's walls. A major highlight of the NSLM's offerings was *Phyllis Mills Wyeth: A Celebration* by Jamie Wyeth organized by the Brandywine River Museum of Art.

In addition to welcoming a host of memorable and dynamic content, these traveling exhibitions allowed a buffer of time for the NSLM to research, develop, and curate its own topics. Among these projects, the most memorable were *Munnings: Out in the Open*; *Side-by-Side with Gun & Dog*; *The Chronicle of the Horse in Art*; *Sidesaddle, 1690-1935*; *Leading the Field: Ellen Emmet Rand*; and *Thrill of the 'Chace: Steeplechase in Art*. These exhibitions brought significant loans from a wide variety of prestigious institutions including the Art Institute of Chicago, Detroit Institute of Art, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Virginia Museum of Fine Art, Yale Center for British Art, and the Munnings Museum in Dedham, England. Core to the NSLM's mission, these exhibitions appealed to sporting and art supporters while attracting broader audiences and made loaned artwork which was often in storage visible to the public.

In anticipation of our anniversary celebrations, the Museum will close on May 2 as we prepare for its 47th exhibition, *A Decade Afield: Celebrating 10 Years of the NSLM's Museum* and will reopen to the public on June 3. The building-wide installation will explore the phenomenal growth of the NSLM's fine art collection in a journey of thematic sections such as "The Start" showcasing the early collection, "Setting the Course" highlighting the Rogan donations, "Casting the Line" bringing together fly-fishing painting and sculpture, and "A Record Pace," a striking gallery of equine art holdings.

The fine art donations and acquisitions that once only filled five art galleries now are able to cover every wall and corner, not to mention considerable storage space. *A Decade Afield* honors those with the dream to renovate an empty structure in the middle of horse and hunt country: today, a fully realized thriving art center. We proudly serve a local, national, and international community with innovative interpretation and look forward to continuing to dream big for many more to come. Without your continued support of our beloved NSLM, none of this would be possible. Thank you. 🐾

A Decade Afield will be on view
June 3–September 18, 2022

Park Drag; a Tabletop Centerpiece with Custom-made Elkington & Co. Mahogany Carrying Case (detail), c. 1910, Museum purchase with funds donated by: Hector Alcalde, Helen K. Groves, Manuel H. Johnson, Jacqueline B. Mars, and Jacqueline L. Ohrstrom, 2011

RECOGNIZING BOARD MEMBER F. TURNER REUTER, JR.'S 30 YEARS OF SERVICE



Please join us in congratulating and thanking F. Turner Reuter, Jr. for his 30th anniversary on the NSLM's Board of Directors. He is the longest-standing current member of the Board since his election in 1991. Reuter's contributions to the NSLM have been too many to enumerate. He is presently the chair of the Museum Exhibitions & Collections and Nominating & Governance Committees and a member of the John H. Daniels Research, Publication, and Fellowship Committee and the Development Committee. He was an integral member of the Vine Hill Building Committee which oversaw the planning, renovation, expansion of the historic house "Vine Hill" into the NSLM's Museum which opened in 2011.

Reuter was the organization's Curator of Fine Arts from 2008–2012 and installed many Library exhibits including loans from Mrs. Jacqueline L. Ohrstrom and his personal collection (2001), *Animals in Art* (2005); *Masterpieces of European and American Sporting Art, 19th and 20th Century* (2006); *Pierre-Jules Mêne: Sporting Bronzes from the Collection of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Mellon at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts* (2008); *The Voss Family: Artists of American Sporting Life* (2008); and the Felicia Warburg Rogan collection (2008).

Reuter was instrumental in stewarding the latter donation of 15 British sporting artworks as well as several other donations and bequests to the art collection.

In 2008, the National Sporting Library published Reuter's encyclopedic 880-page book, *Animal & Sporting Artists in America*, comprising over 2,400 biographies and 400 illustrations and the second edition released in 2011. The majority of the proceeds from the sale of the book benefit the NSLM. The book was 30 years in the making and the first scholarly reference work on American animal and sporting artists. In 2009, Reuter and his wife Dana accompanied Chair Manuel H. Johnson and his wife Mary on a visit to Clarence House, London, where they received an audience with H.R.H. The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall to present a limited edition of the book. A second copy was inscribed for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as well.

Reuter was the guest curator for the Museum's inaugural exhibition, *Afield in America: 400 Years of Animal & Sporting Art*, in 2011. Additionally, he was an Advisor for and facilitated numerous important private collection loans to several Museum exhibitions including *Munnings: Out in the Open* (2013), *Faithfulness to Nature: Paintings by Edward Troye* (2014), *Side-by-Side with Gun and Dog* (2015), *Leading the Field: Ellen Emmet Rand* (2019); and *Thrill of the 'Chace: Steeplechase in Art* (2020).

"Turner's contributions to the NSLM cannot be overstated," noted Johnson, "As a life-long sportsman, sporting art dealer, and proponent of country life, his commitment to NSLM and its mission is unwavering." The fine art collection and institution show the indelible footprint of his dedication and support. 🐾



Achieving Balance

May 1, 2022, 1:00pm

Spring marks an exciting time for us here at the NSLM! For a sneak peek at what's to come, join the NSLM as we celebrate the outdoor installation of *Equipoise* and *Maestro*, bronze sculptures generously gifted by the artist, Diana Reuter-Twining, in 2021.

After a champagne toast and reception, enjoy an interpretive performance piece from the Virginia National Ballet, the leading dance organization in Northern Virginia, as their dancers bring to life the grace and fluidity embodied by the two sculptures.

Take your time marveling at the performance and then enjoy free admission to the Museum to mark the last day before its temporary closure from May 2–June 3 for an exciting transformation for our upcoming exhibition *A Decade Afield: Celebrating 10 Years of the NSLM's Museum!*

The ballet performance is partially supported by funding from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.



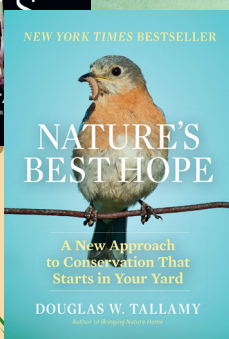
Diana Reuter-Twining (American, b. 1951), *Equipoise*, 2019, bronze on bronze base, 76 x 52 x 16 inches, Gift of Diana Reuter-Twining, 2021

brought to you by



Nature's Best Hope with Dr. Douglas Tallamy

May 25, 6:00pm
\$10, Free for
NSLM Members



Join the NSLM as we speak with Dr. Douglas Tallamy, author of *Nature's Best Hope* and *The Nature of Oaks*, about what we all can do to combat this global trend at the local level, specifically by supporting native plant communities that sustain food webs, sequester carbon, maintain diverse native bee communities, and manage our wetlands.

Afterwards, Dr. Tallamy will lead a walk around NSLM grounds to discuss the ways that we can create and maintain an ecosystem that supports a diversity of native plants, animals, and insects.

brought to you by **Country ZEST & Style**

OPEN LATE

Concert Series

@ the NSLM



This free community event features new and regional performers, local beer/ wine vendors, and delicious concessions. The Museum will have free admission on the evening of the concerts.

Come explore the Town of Middleburg with a scavenger hunt for all ages and interact with local nonprofits and businesses at this community staple.

Last Friday of the Month, May-August 6-8:00pm

May 27 | June 24 | July 29 | Aug. 26

Fast Eddie & The
Slowpokes
Blues

Silver Tones
Swing Band
Big Band

The Knuckle Dusters
Americana

Martin & Kelly
Country



STORIED FRIENDS

Marguerite Henry and Wesley Dennis

Valerie Peacock, George L. Ohrstrom, Jr. Curator of Library Collections
and Cynthia Kurtz, Marketing & Communications Manager

The literary partnership between author Marguerite Henry (American, 1902–1997) and illustrator John Wesley Dennis (American, 1903–1966)

brought some of the most memorable horses, including Misty, Hambletonian, and Sham, into the hearts of youths across the world. This exhibition highlights their decades-long collaboration using archival material, photographs, and books.

Henry and Dennis left a lasting mark on children's literature through their combination of engaging narrative, historical authenticity, and beautiful illustrations. Over the span of two decades they published many books together. Their stories have become popular classics with loyal readers returning again and again to rediscover their favorite tales, as well as new generations inspired by the books.

The famous collaboration between Henry and Dennis began with a trip to the library in 1945. Henry had recently finished *Justin Morgan Had a Horse* and was on the hunt for an artist to illustrate the book. The animals in her stories were characters in their own right: lifelike, lacking the anthropomorphism common in other children's books, but emotionally engaging, nonetheless. She needed an artist whose style aligned with hers. After rejecting all the illustrators suggested by her publisher, she found the answer in, of course, a library. Poring through countless books she came across the work of two artists who fit her stories: the first was Will James, but he had recently passed away. The second was John Wesley Dennis, whose illustrations were realistic and charismatic. She sent him her manuscript of *Justin Morgan* and with that, their 20-year friendship and partnership began.

Dennis illustrated nearly a third of the 59 books Henry wrote during her literary career, including *King of the Wind* (1948), *Born to Trot* (1950), and *Brighty of the Grand Canyon* (1953). Many were fictionalized accounts of the lives of famous horses or historical events, covering a range of sporting topics from flat and harness racing to foxhunting and classical dressage. Her stories of adventure and friendship were coupled with authenticity and robust research, creating an immersive world that was as educational as it was enjoyable. Henry and Dennis are perhaps best known for their series of books about the wild ponies of Chincoteague and Assateague Islands in Virginia. The first, *Misty of Chincoteague*, was introduced to readers in 1947 and told the story of the eponymous pony's life growing up with the Beebe children after being rounded up in the annual pony-penning as a foal. It was followed in 1949 by *Sea Star: Orphan of Chincoteague* and in 1963 by *Stormy, Misty's Foal*. The real Misty was purchased by Henry in 1946 and went on many publicity tours throughout her life, performing tricks and even appearing at the premier of the movie adaptation of her story in 1961.

Despite being raised as a self-described “city-mouse” with few pets of her own, Henry showed a clear understanding of the relationships between animals and humans. Such bonds, especially with horses, feature heavily in her work, adding a human element that is recognizable and relatable. She was a sheltered child, confined for much of her early life after coming down with rheumatic fever. She was inspired to become a writer at the age of seven after receiving a writing desk and supplies as a Christmas gift. Writing expanded her world and opened new doors, offering an escape from her seclusion. Her first work was published when Henry was merely 12 years old and ignited her career.

Unlike Henry, Dennis grew up on a farm surrounded by animals and scenery that were the subjects for his natural artistic ability. After a career as a commercial artist, he sought tutelage in Paris under Lowes Dalbiac Luard, an artist who specialized in horse anatomy and insisted Dennis do the same, requiring him to draw from memory extensively. This consistent practice, study, and memorization greatly benefited Dennis as an artist. His artistry lay in his ability to accurately capture horses, dogs, and people in moments of subtle expression and motion, imbuing his subjects with expression, character, and personality. His depictions of horses drew Henry to his work and were the perfect match for her carefully crafted storytelling world.

Storied Friends: Marguerite Henry and Wesley Dennis will explore the friendship and professional relationship between the two, drawing on photographs, drawings, and literary reviews from the Wesley Dennis Archives at the NSLM; books from the collection; prints from Dennis's Portfolio of Horses; and copies of letters between the pair. 🐾

**Storied Friends will be on view in the
Forrest E. Mars, Sr. Exhibit Hall
April 30–September 11, 2022.
Admission is Free!**

PROGRAMS

Celebrate the opening of *Storied Friends* on Sunday, May 22 during the NSLM's Family Weekend. Bring your family and friends to learn more about the imagination and artistry that sprang from Marguerite Henry and Wesley Dennis's friendship. Join us for guided tours of the exhibition, story time and a horse-y meet and greet.

Accompanying *Storied Friends* will be the NSLM's Book Club launch. The first book read by this group of sporting bibliophiles will be *Misty of Chincoteague* in August, so grab a book and start reading!

For more information on signing up a guided tour, self-guided tour, the NSLM's Family Weekend, or the Book Club please contact Emily Reeb, Clarice & Robert H. Smith Education Coordinator at EReeb@NationalSporting.org or call 540-687-6542 x 25



CHEERS TO 10 YEARS, CLAUDIA!

-Lauren Kraut, Sr. Collections Manager & Registrar

On March 15, 2012, Claudia Pfeiffer began her tenure as NSLM's George L. Ohrstrom, Jr. Curator. Her title has changed over the years to include "Curator of Exhibitions," "Curator of Art," or "Head Curator," but her primary responsibility has stayed the same: to provide high quality scholarship and exhibitions. She certainly has not disappointed.

Claudia has been involved in all the exhibitions that have been on-site in the last 10 years. If you admired *Coming Home Series: Edward Troye (1808–1874)* (2014) or *Thrill of the 'Chace: Steeplechase in Art* (2020), she curated those. If you enjoyed the brilliant *Munnings: Out in the Open* (2013), that was her too. Exhibitions often take years to come together, she did it in only a few months. In 2019's *Leading the Field: Ellen Emmet Rand*, Claudia discovered new and informative scholarship about the artist. For the first time, the important influence of Rand's sporting life as a dedicated rider and hunter was contextualized within her artistic portfolio. Claudia restored this vital perspective, one that had thus far been overlooked, to the artist's biography. Claudia's essay entitled "Ellen Emmet Rand: Artist and Equestrian" was included in the book *Ellen Emmet Rand: Gender Art and Business*, published by Bloomsbury Academic.

The professional collaboration between Claudia and NSLM Board Member F. Turner Reuter, Jr. extends even farther back than her tenure as NSLM's curator. In 1998, Claudia was working as director of Hardcastle Gallery in Delaware when her husband was hired as a teacher in Northern Virginia. Anticipating the move to Virginia, she sent postcards to local galleries inquiring about any open positions. As fate would have it, one of those she reached was Red Fox Fine Art in Middleburg where Claudia would stay for 13 years, eventually becoming director in 2005. During her time there, she assisted Reuter on his significant 800-page encyclopedia *Animal & Sporting Artists in America*. Additionally, she was integral to NSLM's first exhibition *Afield in America: 400 Years of Animal and Sporting Art* (2011). Alongside Reuter, then-Assistant Curator Hannah Reuter, and Art Handler Alex Orfila, they brought the landmark exhibition to life at NSLM.

At that point, in the winter of 2011-2012, and with over a decade of sporting art knowledge and almost two decades of fine art and gallery experience, Claudia applied, at Reuter's suggestion, for the newly established curator position at NSLM. He said, "it was a major loss for me, but the Museum would gain a professional and proficient, dogged scholar with an attention to detail, which is exactly what it needed." Luckily for all of us, it worked out and as Reuter says, "The success of the Museum wouldn't have happened without her."

Perhaps most importantly, Claudia is a great friend. The NSLM is a happy place to be because of her. For me, installation could easily be just another line on the To-Do list, but she makes it fun and enjoyable. It's easy to come to work every day when you have someone like Claudia.

She will be surprised and perhaps embarrassed that we have highlighted her as publicly as this, but her role within NSLM cannot go unmentioned nor be understated. Those who have had the pleasure of meeting her over the years, whether on a tour, through a program, or simply walking around campus, cannot help but be impressed by her contagious enthusiasm for her work. We just hope one day she sees what we all already know – that, Claudia, you truly are the soul of this organization. We thank you for your incredibly hard work and dedication, and your unending support for your colleagues and NSLM.



Pfeiffer, left, with artist Jamie Wyeth and NSLM Executive Director Elizabeth von Hassell. Credit: Peter Fountain



2022 NSLM Polo Classic

Sunday, September 11

Presented by



**Tickets on sale
June 15!**

.the journal

Recent news and updates from the Library & Museum

UPDATE: LIBRARY AND MUSEUM HOURS

While Spring signals a flurry of life and beautiful weather, it also delivers a rush of activity here at the NSLM. In order for us to prepare for these exciting plans, the Museum will be closing to the public from May 2 to June 3.

The Library will remain open for visitors to explore our collections of over 20,000 books. Whether you have a specific topic in mind or just want to learn about something new, come browse the books in the Main Reading Room or schedule a tour of the F. Ambrose Clark Rare Books Room to view the Library's oldest and rarest materials dating back to the 16th century.

Storied Friends: Marguerite Henry and Wesley Dennis will be on view at the Library in the Forrest E. Mars, Sr. Exhibit Hall beginning April 30.

A DECADE AFIELD PROGRAMMING

While many of you may miss perusing our collections during the weeks the Museum is closed, June will bring the opening of the exhibition, *A Decade Afield: Celebrating 10 Years of the NSLM's Museum*.

The exhibition will open with a Members Open House on June 3, 12–3:00pm.

On June 4, join Deputy Director & George L. Ohrstrom, Jr. Curator Claudia Pfeiffer for *Coffee with the Curator* to learn more about how the Museum has grown in the past decade.

Did you know... *Still Water* was one of the first objects loaned to the Museum when it opened? It became part of the permanent collection in 2013.

Nic Fiddian-Green (English, c.1963), *Still Water*, 2011, hammered lead, with copper rivets on oak base, 9 feet, Purchased with funds donated by: Mrs. Frances Massey Dulaney, Mrs. Jacqueline B. Mars, Mrs. George L. Ohrstrom, Jr., Dr. and Mrs. Manuel H. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Akre, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Ronald M. Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Hector Alcalde, Ms. Cathy Brentzel, Mr. and Mrs. Guy O. Dove, Ms. Nina Fout, Ms. Adrienne and Mr. John Mars, Mr. and Mrs. Clarke Ohrstrom, Mrs. Robin Parsky, Mrs. Clarice Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Brennan, Ms. Elizabeth Locke and Mr. John Staelin, 2013





LOOKING AHEAD

Achieving Balance

May 1 | 1:00pm



Join the NSLM as we celebrate the outdoor installation of *Equipoise* and *Maestro*, generously gifted by the artist Diana Reuter-Twining in 2021. After a champagne toast and reception, enjoy a performance from the Virginia National Ballet, the leading dance organization in Northern Virginia, as their dancers bring to life the grace and fluidity embodied by *Equipoise*.

NSLM FAMILY WEEKEND

Join the NSLM for a weekend of family fun on May 21 and 22!

The NSLM will be participating in *Art in the 'Burg* on Saturday, May 21. Visit our table on the front lawn to explore the endless possibilities of book art and learn about traditional book making techniques through guided art projects!

Sunday, May 22, marks the official Open House for the exhibition *Storied Friends: Marguerite Henry and Wesley Dennis* in the Forrest E. Mars, Sr. Exhibit Hall.



SUMMER ART WORKSHOPS

Get crafty with us every Friday in July at 10:30am as part of our Summer Art Series. Attendance is free and all supplies will be provided. All you need to bring is your creativity!

Gallery Talks are back!

Embrace your curiosity and join the NSLM virtually on Facebook Live every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 12 pm as we explore our collections and learn about a new subject from a member of the NSLM staff.



Visit NationalSporting.org to keep up with the latest events and programs!

The National Sporting Library & Museum wishes to thank and recognize our corporate, individual, and foundation supporters whose donations were received between February 1, 2021 and February 28, 2022 and our members whose renewals were received between February 1, 2021 and February 28, 2022. These contributions form the foundation of financial support for the NSLM's operations. We are grateful for gifts at all levels and thank our many donors and friends.

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE (\$25,000+)

Mr. and Mrs. B. Tim Brookshire
Mr. and Mrs. Landon V. Butler
Mr. and Mrs. Donald G. Calder
Mr. and Mrs. Michael R. Crane
Mrs. Frances Massey Dulaney
Natalie and Glenn Epstein
Dr. and Mrs. Manuel H. Johnson
Shirley Z. Johnson*
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence
E. Kurzias
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Mr. and Mrs. Thomas
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Mr. and Mrs. John
H. Mullin, III
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ENDNOTES



Staircase: Frances Benjamin Johnston (American, 1864-1952), Rogers House, Middleburg, Loudoun County, Virginia, ca. 1930-1939, photograph, Carnegie Survey of the Architecture of the South, Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division [LC-DIG-csss-05079]

A landmark in Middleburg, "Vine Hill," named for vineyards which once graced the property, has long-been-believed to have been constructed by a master-builder, Richard Cochran, as his residence in 1804. The elegant plantation-style manor house was made of hand-kilned brick and featured fireplaces with ornate hand-carved mantles attributed to Robert Wellford of Philadelphia, a winding staircase, high ceilings, and solid pine floors.

Vine Hill has a storied history. It was acquired by Gen. Asa Rogers shortly before the Civil War and then by his son Maj. Andrew Lee Rogers after he returned from the war. He is credited with successfully planting vineyards and orchards on the property. After Maj. Rogers passed away in 1871, his widow Charlotte Root Rogers purchased Vine Hill, and its accompanying 6-acres, four years later from her husband's estate for \$3,500. In 1898, Fanny Barclay Cochran Dudley Woodward, who was born in the house and a great-granddaughter of the builder, and Woodward's childhood friend Emily Sidell Shroeder purchased Vine Hill in half shares to create a home for themselves and Woodward's 11-year-old daughter Katharine, under a lifelong trust, naming the mansion "Poor Farm." The agreement excluded any potential spouses as beneficiaries and named Woodward's daughter Katharine as the eventual heir. In 1946, Katharine, known as "Foffy," opened an antique shop, "The Beaver Hat," in a portion of the home while she lived in the rest. In 1968, George L. Ohrstrom, Jr. and Ricard Ohrstrom purchased Vine Hill from Foffy to house *The Chronicle of the Horse* offices on first and second floors and the National Sporting Library in the basement.

In 1998, a new building was constructed to house *The Chronicle*, followed shortly after in 1999 by a new state-of-the-art facility for the NSL, though the Library continued to utilize Vine Hill for storage and office space. By 2006, the notion of expanding the NSL to include a fine art museum had taken shape, and in 2010 the institution was officially rebranded to the National Sporting Library & Museum. To host the new Museum, Vine Hill was renovated and expanded into the space as it is today, which opened in 2011 with the inaugural exhibition *Afield in America*. Today, Vine Hill is home to ten historic gallery spaces featuring much of the original materials from 1804. 🍷



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Cover: John Frederick Herring, Sr. (English, 1795–1865) *Going to the Fair* (detail), 1841, oil on canvas, 57 1/2 x 95 inches, Gift of Manuel and Mary Johnson, 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

For more information or to RSVP to these and other programs, contact Info@NationalSporting.org or (540) 687-6542 x25



Achieving Balance
with artist Diana Reuter-Twining and
the Virginia National Ballet

Sunday, May 1



**50th Anniversary
Celebration of Mill Reef**
with Oak Spring Garden Foundation

Thursday, May 19



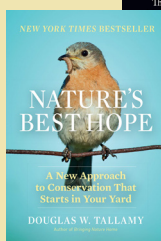
**Museum's 10th
Anniversary Gala**

Thursday, June 2

Nature's Best Hope
with Dr. Douglas Tallamy

Thursday, May 25

Country **ZEST** & Style



NSLM FAMILY WEEKEND

Saturday & Sunday, May 21 & 22



A Decade Afield

Members' Open House

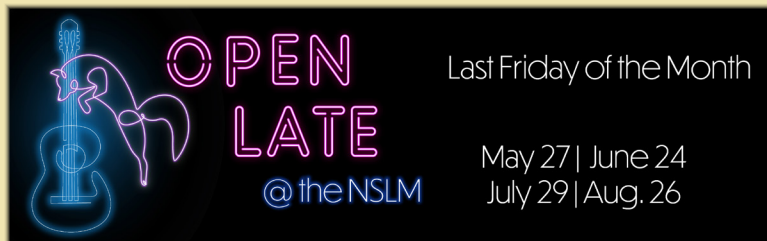
Friday, June 3

Coffee with the Curator

Saturday, June 4

**SUMMER ART
WORKSHOPS**

Friday, July 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29



Last Friday of the Month

May 27 | June 24
July 29 | Aug. 26



Sunday Sketch!

Last Sunday
of every month
2:30pm

NATIONALSPORTING.ORG

HOURS OF OPERATION
Thursday–Sunday
10:00am – 5:00pm

Hours subject to change
Visit NationalSporting.org

Closed on federal holidays

MUSEUM ADMISSION

NSLM Members: Free
Adults: \$10

Seniors (65 & older): \$8

Youth (13–18): \$8

Children (12 & under): Free

Free for EBT/SNAP Recipients and
First Responders

LIBRARY ADMISSION

Free to the public

LOCATION

102 The Plains Road, Middleburg, VA
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Middleburg, VA, 20118-1335
T: 540-687-6542 | F: 540-446-0071